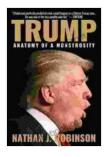
# **Trump: The Anatomy of a Monstrosity**

Donald Trump is a man of many contradictions. He is a self-proclaimed billionaire who has filed for bankruptcy multiple times. He is a populist who has alienated large swaths of the electorate. He is a conservative who has been endorsed by the Ku Klux Klan. And he is a narcissist who has been accused of sexual assault by dozens of women.

So who is the real Donald Trump? What makes him tick? And what are the psychological traits and behaviors that have made him such a polarizing figure in American politics?



★★★★★ 4.4 c	)(	ut of 5
Language	;	English
File size	:	1033 KB
Text-to-Speech	:	Enabled
Screen Reader	:	Supported
Enhanced typesetting	:	Enabled
Word Wise	:	Enabled
Print length	:	389 pages
Lending	:	Enabled

#### Trump: Anatomy of a Monstrosity by Anna Krien



In this article, we will take a deep dive into the mind of Donald Trump. We will examine his childhood, his family relationships, and his business career. We will also analyze his political rhetoric and his behavior in office. And we will ultimately come to a better understanding of the man who has become the 45th President of the United States.

#### Childhood and Family Relationships

Donald Trump was born on June 14, 1946, in Queens, New York. He was the fourth of five children born to Fred Trump, a successful real estate developer, and Mary Anne MacLeod Trump, a Scottish immigrant. Trump's father was a demanding and authoritarian figure, and his mother was more nurturing and supportive. Trump has said that he was closer to his mother than his father, but he also admired his father's business acumen.

Trump's childhood was marked by both privilege and adversity. He attended private schools and lived in a luxurious home, but he also witnessed his father's frequent bouts of infidelity and his mother's struggles with alcoholism. Trump has said that his father's harsh treatment of him made him tough and competitive, but it also left him with a deep-seated insecurity that he has never been able to overcome.

Trump's relationship with his siblings was also complex. He was close to his older brother, Fred Jr., but he was often at odds with his younger brother, Robert. Trump has said that he was jealous of Fred Jr.'s intelligence and athleticism, and he resented Robert's rebellious nature. Trump's relationship with his sisters, Maryanne and Elizabeth, was more positive, but it was still marked by competition and rivalry.

#### **Business Career**

Trump began his business career in the early 1970s, when he joined his father's real estate company. Trump quickly rose through the ranks, and he eventually took over the company in 1971. Under Trump's leadership, the company expanded rapidly, and he became one of the most successful real estate developers in New York City.

Trump's business career was marked by both success and controversy. He was praised for his ability to negotiate deals and build iconic buildings, but he was also criticized for his unscrupulous business practices. Trump has been accused of fraud, racketeering, and sexual harassment. He has also filed for bankruptcy multiple times.

Despite the controversies, Trump's business career made him a wealthy man. He has estimated his net worth at over \$10 billion, although this figure is disputed. Trump's wealth has given him a sense of entitlement and invincibility, and it has also allowed him to pursue his political ambitions.

#### **Political Career**

Trump first entered the political arena in the 1980s, when he considered running for President. He ultimately decided against it, but he remained active in politics, supporting Republican candidates and donating to conservative causes.

In 2015, Trump announced that he would run for President as a Republican. He ran on a populist platform that appealed to white workingclass voters who felt left behind by the global economy. Trump's campaign was marked by racism, xenophobia, and misogyny, but he ultimately won the Republican nomination.

In the general election, Trump faced off against Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton. Clinton was a more experienced politician, but Trump was able to capitalize on voter discontent with the status quo. Trump won the election in a surprise victory, and he became the 45th President of the United States.

### **Psychological Traits and Behaviors**

So what are the psychological traits and behaviors that have made Donald Trump such a polarizing figure in American politics? There are many different theories, but some of the most common include:

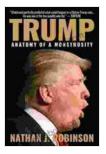
- Narcissism: Trump exhibits many of the classic signs of narcissism, including a grandiose sense of self-importance, a need for constant admiration, and a lack of empathy for others.
- Authoritarianism: Trump also exhibits many of the traits of authoritarianism, including a belief in a strong leader, a contempt for weakness, and a willingness to use violence to achieve his goals.
- Impulsivity: Trump is often impulsive and reckless in his decisionmaking. He has a tendency to shoot from the hip and to act without thinking through the consequences.
- Aggression: Trump is also a very aggressive person. He is quick to anger and he often resorts to personal insults and attacks when he is challenged.
- Paranoid Ideation: Trump has a tendency to see himself as the victim of a vast conspiracy. He often accuses his critics of being "fake news" or "the enemy of the people."

These are just some of the psychological traits and behaviors that have been observed in Donald Trump. It is important to note that these are not clinical diagnoses, and it is possible that Trump does not suffer from any

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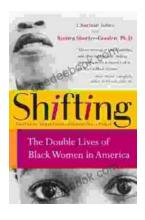
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